

the Gateway

USAFE's Best Small Funded Newspaper for 2003 

Vol. 61, No. 4, Feb. 25, 2005, Rhein-Main AB, Germany

News Brief

Award winners

Congratulations to **Master Sgt. Ricky Carns**, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, who was recently selected as the 21st Expeditionary Mobility Task Force senior NCO of the year. Sergeant Carns and **Airman 1st Class Casey Jensen** were selected as the 721st Air Mobility Operations Group senior NCO and Airman of the year respectively. The 726th AMS received further recognition for having the best air transportation function and best overall command and control function for the 21st EMTF.

NCOA graduates

Congratulations to the recent graduates of the Kisling NCO Academy Class 2005-2 at Kapaun Air Station, Germany.

Graduates from Team Rhein-Main are:

From the 469th Air Base Group:

- Tech. Sgt. Ben Allen Jr.;
- Tech. Sgt. Corey Gauny
- Tech. Sgt. Robert Huber
- Tech. Sgt. Dustin Ruland
- Tech. Sgt. William Valvo

From the 726th AMS:

- Tech. Sgt. Stephen Cunningham;
- Tech. Sgt. Jaime Falcon.

From the 485th Intelligence Squadron:

- Tech. Sgt. David Caputo;
- Tech. Sgt. Keith Oliver

ALS graduates

Congratulations to the recent graduates of the Ramstein Airman Leadership School Class 2005-3 at Kapaun Air Station, Germany.

Graduates from Team Rhein-Main were:

- Senior Airman Gregory Hutchings, 469th ABG CEF;
- Staff Sgt. John Cook, 726th AMS.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Marie Cassetty

(Above) President George W. Bush shakes hands with some of the more than 400 people who braved frigid temperatures to see him depart Rhein-Main Wednesday. The president and first lady give a final wave to the crowd before departing on Air Force One.



President Bush visits with German officials, U.S. military members

By 1st Lt. Jenny Lovett
86th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Amidst frigid temperatures and blowing snow, President George W. Bush, met by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, arrived at Rhein-Main Wednesday as part of his European tour.

Accompanied by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and White House chief of staff Andrew Card, President Bush stepped out of Air Force One and waved

to a crowd of approximately 100 civilians and military members, including Brig. Gen. Rosanne Bailey, 435th Air Base Wing commander, who was the official greeter for Chancellor Schroeder upon his arrival earlier in the morning.

After greeting other high-level officials, President Bush stepped into his motorcade and drove to Mainz, Germany, where Chancellor Schroeder hosted talks about

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USAFE Airman Information File

February 2005

Providing Honest Feedback

Feedback is a common occurrence in the Air Force -- it's mandatory for supervisors to provide formal feedback to their subordinates at specific times. Supervisors also provide informal feedback on a monthly, weekly, or even daily basis. Regardless of the frequency, it's critical that feedback be honest!

Many people find it difficult to provide honest feedback. It's easy to tell someone they're doing a good job, but it's harder to be the "bad guy" who tells someone they aren't meeting expectations. Supervisors may not provide honest feedback for fear of causing tension in the office; instead, they kick the can down the road and leave honest feedback for a future supervisor to deliver.

Supervisors owe their subordinates nothing less than clear, concise and honest feedback so they know exactly where they stand at all times. Honest feedback allows subordinates to identify where they are falling short and what steps they can take to improve themselves. Subordinates will not fully develop if supervisors fail to tell them where they need improvement. As individual improvement occurs, it sends out a ripple effect that positively impacts the entire organization. Honest feedback also strengthens the credibility of the supervisor giving it. A subordinate who consistently receives honest feedback from their supervisor remains confident that their supervisor will always be upfront, regardless of the circumstances involved.

When providing feedback, it's vital that you not only be honest, but that you give it in a professional manner -- the intent of feedback is to improve individual and team performance, not to belittle.

Finally, realize that providing feedback is not merely a responsibility of supervisors. Regardless of your rank or position, you each have valuable insight to offer. Peers must be willing to give each other feedback, and supervisors need your feedback too. We never reach a point in our career, or our lives, where we can't benefit from honest, professional feedback.

Providing and receiving honest feedback isn't easy -- it requires us to bring our courage to get the job done right. Start today: be recognized as a straight shooter who is always willing to provide, and receive, direct and honest feedback -- our whole USAFE team will benefit!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Doc Foglesong".

General Doc Foglesong

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary Coleman".

CMSgt Gary Coleman

"Bring Your Courage"

Tickets available for USAFE's Annual Awards Banquet

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany (USAFENS) — Tickets for the U.S. Air Forces in Europe's Annual Awards Banquet are available for purchase March 1.

The USAFE Annual Awards Banquet will be 6:30 p.m. April 8 at the Ramstein Air Base Officers' Club. Price of the tickets for the meat option is \$24 for club members and \$27 for non-members. Ticket prices for the vegetarian option are \$16.55 for club members and \$19.55 for non-members.

The USAFE Annual Awards Banquet honors the command's outstanding Airmen and civilians competing in the categories of Airmen, Noncommissioned Officer,

Senior NCO, Company Grade Officer, First Sergeant of the Year and Civilian – Categories I and II. USAFE leaders will announce the winners from each category during the event.

The deadline for ticket purchase is March 30 and can be purchased from wing command chief master sergeants or organization first sergeants. Guest speaker for the evening will be former Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Joseph Ralston. Both civilians and military members of all ranks are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact your wing command chief master sergeant or first sergeant.



Blood drive draws near

The Rhein-Main Community Blood Drive is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday at the base chapel annex.

Active-duty military, dependents and DoD beneficiaries can give blood. People wanting to give blood should contact one of the following points-of-contact to pre-qualify and schedule a time to give:

- 469th Air Base Group – Tech. Sgt. Thomas Hall
- 726th Air Mobility Squadron – Tech. Sgt. Jaime Falcon or Senior Airman Dave Pimentel
- 64th Replacement Company – 1st Lt. Katherine Booth-Calero
- Frankfurt Consulate

Donating blood is a simple way for nearly anyone to save up to three lives.

(Courtesy of base clinic)

VISIT, from Page 1 —

the future of NATO and rebuilding efforts in Iraq.

After the visit, President Bush met with nearly 3,000 U.S. military members and spouses from the Air Force and the Army's 1st Armored Division at Weisbaden, Germany, many of whom were in Iraq when he made a surprise visit there during Thanksgiving.

"We are honored that the President and Mrs. Bush have chosen Wiesbaden to visit with Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and family members of the United States European Command," said Maj. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, commanding general of the 1st Armored Division.

The president's whirlwind tour began with back-to-back meetings with NATO and European Union leaders in Brussels, Belgium, where he affirmed that "in this new century, the United States and Europe reaffirm that commitment (of democracy, freedom and rule of law) and renew our great alliance of freedom."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marie Cassetty

Col. Brad Denison, 469th Air Base Group commander, greets German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder as Brig. Gen. Rosanne Bailey, 435th Air Base Wing commander, looks on Wednesday. The chancellor arrived at Rhein-Main shortly before President George W. Bush and was among several German dignitaries to greet the president before he headed to Mainz.

D.A.R.E. at Rhein-Main

Drug Abuse Resistance Education or D.A.R.E. was started in 1983 in California as a program to combat the swiftly increasing drug problem which was flooding the country.

Today, D.A.R.E. is taught to students in kindergarten through fifth grade, 7th grade, and 9th grade in various countries around the world. A program for parents is also available.

A highly trained Rhein-Main security forces officer instructs fifth-grade students during a 10-week course on basic facts about the health risks of cigarettes, marijuana, alcohol, inhalants, the types of peer-pressure, and the purpose of warning labels. They also teach about other activities which can be enjoyed without drugs.

The program is exciting but challenging for the students. They're expected to put "their best foot forward" to be able to participate on culmination day during the 10th week.

Although D.A.R.E. is prominent mainly in the United States, it's beginning to sweep across Europe and other countries as a method of combating the world's drug problems.

The curriculum is developed by educators, but taught by highly trained police officers who add experience to the lessons. Officers undergo 80 hours of training by the best educators in the world, as well as by officers specialized in D.A.R.E. After receiving the training officers earn a certification to teach the D.A.R.E. curriculum.

About 15 years ago I sat in the very chair these students are now sitting in. My 5th grade class was the first class at my elementary school to participate in the program.

From my experience, the program today has improved from the program then. The old program focused on telling kids to "say no to drugs". The new program takes it a few steps further.

Now, students are being taught not only to "say no to drugs" but also how to say no. Students learn how to be assertive and how to stand up to peer-pressure. Exciting activities allow the students to interact with classmates and practice their new assertive skills plus other skills learned throughout the program.

D.A.R.E. would not be complete without the D.A.R.E. decision-making model, which is used to enhance the student's understanding of the process to use when faced with a difficult decision. By

teaching students to define their problem, identify all their options, make a decision, and then evaluate the decision made; students learn to think about the consequences of their actions before they act.

By police officers showing students they care, students are more apt to seek the assistance of an officer when faced with a troubling situation in which law enforcement is needed. Police officers are not at the school to lecture students or



**By Senior Airman
Elizabeth Speichinger**
469th Air Base Group
Security Forces Flight

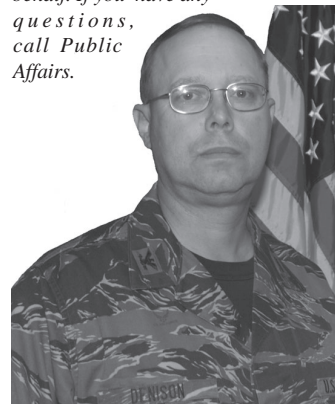
The Action Line is one way for me to keep my finger on the pulse of the Rhein-Main community and is used as an avenue for communication.

The main objective of the Commander's Action Line is finding solutions to problems or providing explanations for processes.

If you experience problems at Rhein-Main, you should always try to resolve problems at the lowest level by contacting the unit or agency managers. In almost every case, your chain of command is the best solution. I strongly encourage everyone to use that route first. When normal channels haven't been able to resolve your issues, feel free to send an e-mail to Hotline@rheinmain.af.mil or call 330-7779. Please include your name and contact information along with your concern.

Action Lines are forwarded to the appropriate agency for action and response. They should contact you within 24 hours. Once an Action Line is started, the agency must provide a complete answer to me within 10 days.

The 469th Air Base Group Public Affairs Office is responsible for managing the Action Line program on my behalf. If you have any questions, call Public Affairs.



Col. Bradley Denison
Commander, 469th Air Base Group

330-7779

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— See D.A.R.E., Page 5

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Editorial Staff

Col. Bradley Denison.....Commander
1st Lt. Uriah Orland.....Chief, Public Affairs
Tech. Sgt. Matt Summers.....Editor
Airman 1st Class Eric Donner.....Staff Writer

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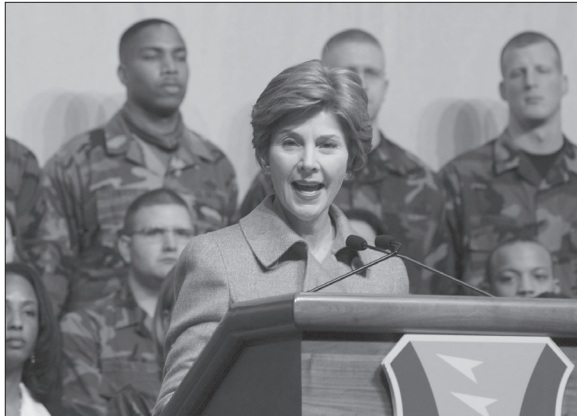


Photo by Staff Sgt. Jonathan Pomeroy

The first family

(Above) First lady Laura Bush addresses military members at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, Tuesday. To show her appreciation for America's military and their sacrifices, Mrs. Bush also visited wounded soldiers at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center during her Ramstein-area visit. (Right) Amidst frigid temperatures and blowing snow, President George W. Bush steps out of Air Force One and waves to a crowd of approximately 100 civilians and military members after arriving at Rhein-Main Wednesday during his European tour.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marie Cassetty

D.A.R.E., from Page 4-

horrify them with scare tactics or stories of their experiences in dealing with drug-induced suspects. The purpose of the officer in the school is to promote safe schools, which in turn will promote healthy students.

Parents, I challenge you to talk to your children about D.A.R.E. Learn as much as you can about the program from your children. Become involved in their lives because no one is more important in a child's life than his or her parents. The children are our future. Let us ensure their futures are bright, secure, healthy, and safe.

For more information about D.A.R.E., log onto www.dare.com or contact Senior Airman David Day or Senior Airman Elizabeth Speichinger.



Annual awards banquet marks final chapter

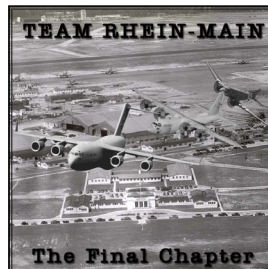
Tonight's Team Rhein-Main Annual Awards Banquet at the Steigenberger Hotel marks the end of a 60-year history of recognizing those individuals who make the mission happen at Rhein-Main.

Congratulations to the following nominees from the 469th Air Base Group, 726th Air Mobility Squadron, Det. 1 2nd Air Postal Squadron and the 485th Intelligence Squadron.

Airman category – **Airman 1st Class Samuel Sells**, 469th ABG Civil Engineer Flight; **Airman 1st Class Casey Jensen**, 726th AMS; **Senior Airman Jennifer Robbins**, Det. 1 2nd APS and **Airman 1st Class Jamyl Mahoney**, 485th IS.

NCO category – **Tech. Sgt. Brian**

McHugh, 469th ABG Communications Flight; **Staff Sgt. Gillie Zamora**, 726th AMS; **Tech. Sgt. Elpidio Abaya Jr.**, Det. 1 2nd APS and **Tech. Sgt. Christopher Penberthy**, 485th IS.



Senior NCO category – **Senior Master Sgt. Trina Douglas**, 469th ABG Finance Office and **Master Sgt. Ricky Carns**, 726th AMS and **Master Sgt. Gregory Polson**, 485th IS.

CGO category – **Capt. Matthew Orlowsky**, 469th ABG Services Flight and **Capt. Eric Haler**, 726th AMS and

Capt. Tod Alber, 485th IS.

Civilian category I – **Jackie Muir**, 469th ABG Services Flight and **Angela Clementson**, 726th AMS.

Civilian category II – **Lee Tapia**, 469th ABG Finance Office and **Larry Jeklin**, 726th AMS.



Airman 1st Class Rob Ocasia, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight, mans the overwatch post near the main gate to Rhein-Main.

**Story and photos by
Airman 1st Class Eric Donner**
Staff writer

Whether inspecting cars and passengers for illegal drugs or explosives, issuing temporary passes or investigating crimes, the 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight ensures the integrity and safety of base personnel and assets.

For it's support of the base as well as a deployed mission, Rhein-Main's security forces were recently named the U.S. Air Forces in Europe command's 2004 Outstanding Security Forces Geographically Separated unit/Munitions Support Squadron.

"We have a lot of super folks here — they constantly give 200 percent with the job, community and family building," said Capt. Jeffrey Adams, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight chief.

The security forces troops are always willing to volunteer for base functions from working with kids, providing behind the scenes support or operating a booth. Security forces have become some of the most versatile troops in the Air Force today, said Captain Adams.

"In a pinch the troops in the 469th SF flight will get it done with pride and hustle," he said. "That's a big factor on why they won the award."



Staff Sgt. Durrell Lee, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight, performs a communications check while on duty as the law enforcement desk sergeant.

Top

Security forces flight

The security forces troops support one of the largest C-17 missions in the Air Force, providing airtight security operations for 60,658 tons of cargo transiting the base and contingency transient troop security for 735,797 passengers deploying to and from Iraqi, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

There's no other base that has had this kind of impact on Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, according to Captain Adams. The SF secures more planes and personnel than all other USAFE bases put together.

"When you look at the numbers, the troops here do more with less personal," said Tech. Sgt. Jenny Luttrell, Installation Antiterrorism officer. "They do this by working very hard and long hours."

The security forces are able to do this with the help of both civilian employees and deployed troops. The flight is made up of about 60 permanent part active duty troops,



Airman 1st Class 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight, m of drivers on base

Cops

t earns USAF honors



Staff Sgt. Benjamin Tharp, deployed to 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight from Ramstein Air Base and his K-9 Gabbie, inspect a bus at the main gate.

21 temporary duty troops, eight local nationals and nearly 50 contracted security guards.

Security forces troops are more than just patrol officers keeping drivers and personnel in line and security guards protecting the gates and aircraft. There are also troops in the background providing valuable services to Team Rhein-Main, according to Captain Adams.



McKinzie Nash, Group Security monitors the speed.

The investigations office is one of several sections in the 'cop shop' that's not seen by every day customers. The investigation team is responsible for investigating accidents and small crimes. The investigations office also monitors and controls 19 alarmed facilities. The facilities have annual exercises to ensure readiness in case of emergencies. As if that isn't enough the offices is also responsible for impounding abandoned vehicles on base.

Two other offices are the combat arms

training and maintenance office and the training office. The training office keeps flight personnel up-to-date on training and trains base augmentees. CATM personnel also train and qualify base personnel on the M-16 and if required the M-9. They also track changes on the qualification requirements.

One of the most popular offices in the flight is the pass and registration office. It handles base passes: visitor passes, contractor pass, and restricted area badges. Personnel also register vehicles and issue license plates.

"The busiest office on base is the LE (Law Enforcement) Desk," according to Staff Sgt. Durrell Lee, 469th ABG SF Desk Sergeant.

LE desk personnel monitor 32 alarmed areas on base, answer phone calls regarding everything from complaints to locating missing troops and emergencies. The desk sergeant also monitors posts and patrol status and welfare.

"The teamwork here is phenomenal," said Captain Adams. "This is one heck of a unit, they deserve the recognition they earned and more.

"I am humbled and proud to work side by side with these true Air Force Warriors," he added.



Senior Airman Elizabeth Speichinger, 469th Air Base Group Security Forces Flight, issues a set of U.S. Army Europe license plates.

Some deployments extended to 365 days

By Master Sgt. David Byron
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials are designating some positions in U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility as 365-day extended deployments in an effort to provide stability and allow for long-term relationship building with host governments.

The new tour lengths currently affect about 200 key and critical operational and joint task force staff positions, officials said.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper directed the extended tours in response to requests from joint task force commanders seeking continuity in selected positions, often where the local culture requires more time to establish meaningful ties with local people and host governments.

These key positions are an integral part of a combatant commander's mission and the air and space expeditionary force structure. No new positions will be created; they will be converted from current AEF slots.

"The positions will span a wide spectrum of Air Force career fields," said Lt. Col. James Davis, Air Force assignment classification, retirements and separation policy chief. "There will be a good mix of enlisted and officer positions, mainly mid-level and up."

Air Force Personnel Center officials

will take the lead in finding people to fill most of the slots. Air Force Senior Leader Management Office officials will handle requirements for colonel and chief master sergeant positions, he said.

Colonel Davis said selections would be made during the course of the upcoming spring and summer assignment cycles with all being in place by August 2005.

Volunteers will be sought first, he said. If there are not enough volunteers, AFPC officials will use modified short-tour criteria to fill the slots. For colonels, AFSLMO officials will assign them through major command channels.

Although these deployments may appear to be remote tours, they are not permanent change-of-station moves. It is not a goal to establish a permanent U.S. military presence in the region, and there is no Status of Forces Agreement in place covering permanent assignments, officials said. The positions will fall under the category of "indeterminate length" temporary duty assignments. That category will allow for certain entitlements to apply that are not available for standard temporary assignments.

"Although we can't consider them regular short-tour assignments, they will be treated as such," Colonel Davis said. "Lieutenant colonels and below who complete the tours will have priority for follow-on assignments, just like any other one-year tour." Colonels

completing the tours will be assigned according to normal colonel assignment procedures.

Family members also may be eligible for standard short-tour benefits.

Storage of household goods is one benefit offered to Airmen serving temporary assignments of 180 days or longer. There are possible options for moving the Airman's family while deployed; the availability and extent of those options will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Airmen may also have the option of returning to their former assignment, if there is a suitable vacancy, officials said.

There will be career benefits for Airmen serving these extended temporary assignments. Airmen serving the 365-day TDYs will receive short-tour credit and be exempt from AEF or other contingency deployments for six months following their return home. Most of the joint task force positions will earn joint-duty credit depending on actual length of rotation, officials said.

"Our expectation is that all of the joint task force positions will get full joint credit," Colonel Davis said. "We are currently validating the positions working this with the Joint Staff and (secretary of defense). Although we're asking some of our Airmen to deploy for a longer period of time to meet mission needs, we're constantly looking for the best options for our (Airmen) and their families."

President thanks troops for Iraq service

"Job well done!" President Bush told troops recently returned from deployments to Iraq Wednesday at their home station, Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

The president thanked soldiers from the 1st Armored Division, the 1st Infantry Division and other units for carrying out their mission in Iraq "with skill and honor" and said he and the American people are grateful for their service.

"I bring you a message from back home," Bush told about

3,000 servicemembers gathered at the airfield. "The American people are grateful to you. Your communities are proud of you. And as you defend the cause of freedom, America stands with you."

"The service and sacrifice of America's military families is vital to our success in the war on terror, and your president is here to tell you I'm proud of our military families as well," he said. *(Courtesy of American Forces Press Service)*



Around The Force

Medals update

Air Force officials have completed a batch update to currently reflect award of the Korean Defense Service Medal and Global War on Terrorism-Expeditionary Medal in the military personnel data system.

Air Force Personnel Center officials recently completed a mass decorations update for more than 69,000 active-duty Airmen who were permanently assigned to Korea, earning the Korean medal. An additional 114,000 updates for the expeditionary medal were completed for active-duty Airmen deployed to Southwest Asia supporting Operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom since Sept. 11, 2001.

Airmen eligible to wear either medal can view their decoration history in virtual military personnel flight to verify the update was successful. They can contact their commander's support staff if they qualified for either decoration, but their decoration history was not updated. If the entitlement is verified, support staff Airmen will fax the appropriate letter to the AFPC contact center for update.

Each medal will only be awarded once, regardless of how many times an individual returns to serve in the respective theater, officials said. There are no service stars or other devices authorized; however, battle stars may be authorized with the GWOT for people who engaged in actual combat. The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the approving authority for battle stars.

The medals initially will be issued by local MPFs as they become available and are also available through the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

For more information on criteria for issue and wear of each medal, visit: www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/awards/Recently%20approved%20awards.htm.

TSP changes

Defense Department civilians and servicemembers building tax-free retirement accounts through the Thrift Savings Plan soon will be able to change their investment options at any time instead of just twice a year.

Current biannual TSP "open season" investment-choice windows will end July 1, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive

director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. TSP participants, she said, will be able to switch their retirement account options at any time.

Colonel Fenton said "there's not going to be the two open seasons during the year" where people can sign up for the retirement savings and investment program, change their contribution levels or change investment options.

Military people and civilians covered by the Civil Service Retirement System can contribute up to 10 percent of their paycheck to establish tax-free retirement accounts that grow from accumulated savings and investments in bonds, stocks and international funds. Employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System can contribute up to 15 percent in 2005. From 2006 on, no limit will apply to any participants in TSP.

Another TSP change also slated to start July 1 gives participants the choice of having a financial manager automatically adjust how funds are invested as market conditions change, officials said.

"They'll move you from equities to bonds when you need to," Colonel Fenton said, which should assist participants in maximizing their contributions.

Commissioning opportunity

A program allowing active-duty enlisted Airmen to attend college full time without loss of pay or benefits, and graduate with both a degree and a commission might just be the best kept secret in the Air Force, officials said.

"It's easily one of the best programs in the Air Force, and not a lot of people know about it," said Maj. Gregory Nelms, an instructor and the admissions officer with University of Oklahoma's Air Force ROTC Detachment 675.

"You stay on active duty while going to school with full pay and benefits and a full scholarship. Where's the down side?"

The Airman Education and Commissioning Program gives eligible Airmen up to three years to complete a technical, nursing, foreign language or area studies bachelor's degree and then be commissioned as a second lieutenant.

For more information, go to <http://www.afoats.af.mil/afrotc/enlistedcommissioning/FY05%20aecp.htm>.

DUI/DWI Tracker

Days without DUIs (As of Tuesday)

469th Air Base Group

114 days

726th Air Mobility Squadron

17 days

64th Replacement Company

282 days

Tenant Units

66 days

Others

209 days

The 469th ABG Top IV provides a

fund at the main gate for permanent party personnel who take a taxi back to the base instead of driving while intoxicated.

The money used must be reimbursed the next duty day.



Judge advocates ensure military members are protected, disciplined

By Master Sgt. Mona Ferrell

U.S. Air Forces in Europe Public Affairs

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Truth, justice and a speedy trial within the military judicial system may not be concerns weighing on a servicemember's mind on a daily basis, but as a victim of a crime or as an Airman being accused of a crime, these concerns are things you not only think about, they are things you expect.

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe military justice offices work to meet these expectations, said Col. Steve Irwin, USAFE's military justice division chief.

"As Airmen in the U.S. Air Force, we are sworn to defend the United States Constitution," Colonel Irwin said. "Our military justice system embodies our Constitution. It helps us maintain discipline, good order, high morale and individual rights.

"Commanders can initiate nonjudicial punishment and refer charges to courts-martial," he said. "At the same time, we as individual Airmen are innocent until proven guilty, we have a right to be silent, and we have a right to counsel. It also means the truth is the most important thing. And, if charges are referred against me, I know I will have the option to be tried by a jury of my peers.

"Everybody is part of the military judicial system," Colonel Irwin said. "Every day Airmen abide by the Uniformed Code of Military Justice, correct others, act as witnesses and serve as jury members in courts-martial. It is a way in which we hold ourselves to the high standards, which make us the best. And it's this knowledge, participation and pride in the system that allows it to work."

Airmen working in military justice offices within the command recently attended a military justice advocacy and administration training course here.

The five-day course provided the participants with the most recent developments in the laws and regulations affecting the administration of military justice, both Air Force wide and from a major command perspective.

In addition, the course was designed to increase networking and information sharing between bases to

ensure the uniform, consistent and efficient processing of military justice actions, Colonel Irwin said.

"Our over-arching objectives were to train people on the nuts and bolts of military justice, increase the networking between us and make justice more efficient," he said.

Keeping the 'justice delayed is justice denied' concept in the forefront of their minds, course participants were provided with a fictitious scenario involving statements stemming from alleged misconduct and an altercation between two Airmen.

The scenario was used as the basis for most of the instruction throughout the week, the colonel said. As more information was presented in each stage of the judicial process, the severity of the conduct in the case moved from an Article 15 to a general court-martial.

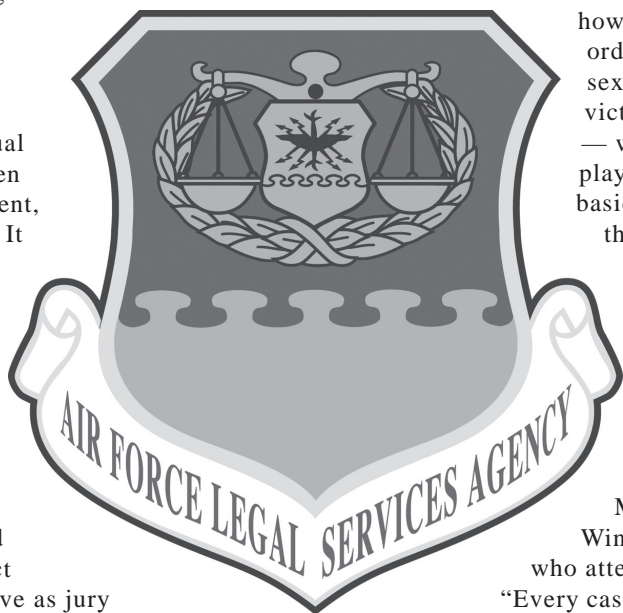
"This case had everything in it — how to investigate, no-contact orders, interviewing witnesses, (a) sexual assault issue and the victim/witness assistance program — we examined the case and role played throughout the week, basically picking this case apart," the colonel said. "The whole idea was to move the case quickly, but we also worked on how to do it fairly and ensure people's rights were protected."

The course was also about building professional relationships, said Maj. Chris McMahon, the 435th Air Base Wing military justice chief here who attended the course.

"Every case is handled differently, depending on the facts and circumstances," Major McMahon said. "But, although every case is unique, there are always similar things that come up. Working with people across the command allows us to recognize our collective potential and take advantage of it."

Military justice is all about the people, the law and the truth — it also helps when we all speak with one voice," Colonel Irwin said.

"We're handling cases like the one we used for this course every day in our expeditionary Air Force, and our goal is to ensure we're networked and working together for justice and make sure people are protected and disciplined," he said.



Essay contest winners

Following are the winners of the first-ever Rhein-Main African-American Heritage Committee Essay Contest. The theme of the essay contest was "How has Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dreams and visions inspired you to succeed in life?"

- **Kiana Jackson** - \$150 savings bond
- **Sydney Melillo** - \$100 savings bond
- **Robert Snyder** - \$50 saving bond

The winners received the bonds courtesy of Andrews Federal Credit Union and the AAHC.

College scholarships

The Rhein-Main Community Spouses Club will award scholarships to high school seniors who have a sponsor assigned to Rhein-Main.

Applications are available at H.H. Arnold High School, the family support center and the library. Applications are due no later than Sunday.

For more information, call Carita Spencer.

Lunch and learn

Due to popular demand the family support center sponsors a German Lunch and Learn Class from noon to 1 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at Our House, Bldg. 627 B-2 in Gateway Gardens.

Bring a lunch and learn how to sur-

vive on the economy.

Call 330-7992 for more information.

Wingman promotions

Members of U.S. Air Forces in Europe can present their wingman and wingman card each Wednesday at the Rocket Sports Lounge and when they purchase a lunch special at regular price they get the second lunch at half price.

A wingman and wingman card presented at the Rocket Bowling Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays earns bowling for \$1 each game including shoes.

Reserve space

Is your club or group having a function? Did you know you can reserve "Our House" for private meetings, parties or functions? Call 699-7913 from more information.

New hours

Our House, Bldg. 627 B-2 in Gateway Gardens, has new operating hours.

New hours are:

- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays
- 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays

For more information, call Tammy Custer.

Federal employment

The FSC sponsors a 10 Steps to Federal Employment class from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 9. Participants can learn the best way to get started in the federal government.

Easter crafts

The FSC sponsors a children's Easter crafting class from 3 - 5 p.m. March 10 at "Our House". Children will make paper-type baskets and other Easter crafts. Although the class is designed for 6 to 12-year-olds, parents can stay and help younger children.

Numbers are limited. Call 330-7992 to sign up.

Heartlink

The FSC sponsors Heartlink from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 11 at "Our House".

Movies at Rhein-Main

Tonight - "Are We There Yet?" (PG), 7 p.m.

Saturday - "National Treasure," (PG), 5 p.m. and "Lemony Snickets," (PG), 7:30 p.m.

Sunday - "Spanglish," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Wednesday - "Hitch," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

March 4 - "Blade: Trinity," (R), 7 p.m.

March 5 - "Meet the Fockers," (PG-13), 5 p.m., and "Hide and Seek," (R), 7:30 p.m.

March 6 - "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou," (R), 7 p.m.

March 9 - "Constantine," (R), 7 p.m.

March 11 - "White Noise," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

March 12 - "Pooh's Heffalump," (G), 5 p.m. and "Fat Albert," (PG), 7:30 p.m.

March 13 - "Meet the Fockers," (PG-13), 7 p.m.

Movies and times are subject to change.

Movie schedules for local communities can be found at

www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp

Spouses can learn about the military while having fun playing Polish Pottery Bingo. A duffle bag will be given to all attendees.

Action board

A Community Action Information Board is scheduled for March 15. If anyone has community concerns or issues they would like to have addressed at this meeting, they can call the FSC at 330-7992.

Base-wide yard sale

Get your junk and treasure together for the Rhein-Main Community Spouses Club base-wide yard sale set for April 30 - rain or shine. The club is also planning to set up a car sale lot for anyone who wants to get rid of their "hoopy."

Chapel schedule

The following worship opportunities are offered by the Rhein-Main Chapel:

■ Catholic worship:
Sunday Mass - 9 a.m. every Sunday.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

CCD - 10:30 a.m.

■ Protestant worship:

Sunday School - 9 a.m.

Chapel fellowship - 10 a.m.

Worship and Kids Own Church take place every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.





Photo by Staff Sgt. Marie Cassetty

President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush wave goodbye to the crowd one last time before departing Rhein-Main.

The president and first lady on tour in Germany



White House photo by Paul Morse

President George W. Bush delivers remarks to U.S. troops at Wiesbaden Army Air Field in Wiesbaden Wednesday. President Bush is nearly lost in a sea of camouflage as he addresses troops.



White House photo by Eric Draper

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, fourth from left, and others wait on the tarmac as arriving U.S. President George W. Bush deplanes Air Force One at Rhein-Main Wednesday.



White House photo by Susan Sterner

Laura Bush and Mrs. Schroeder-Koepf, center, view the Gutenberg Bible during a visit to the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz.

Laura Bush watches dancers during a lunch hosted by Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, behind, and Mrs. Schroeder-Koepf, left, at the Electoral Palace in Mainz Wednesday.



White House photo by Eric Draper



White House photo by Paul Morse